

FEBRUARY 14th, 1914.

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Read the first and second time and committed to a committee of the whole house on Thursday next.

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## A Bill

*Confirming certain claims to land in the Illinois territory, and providing for their location.*

1     *Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the*  
2     *United States of America in congress assembled, That the deci-*  
3     *sions made by the commissioners (appointed in pursuance of the*  
4     *act, entitled "An act for the reversion of former confirmations and*  
5     *for confirming certain claims to land in the district of Kaskas-*  
6     *kia," passed the twentieth day of February, one thousand eight*  
7     *hundred and twelve) where such decisions were in favor of the*  
8     *claims, and where the commissioners have reported specially and*  
9     *have not rejected the claims; all such claims as entered in their*  
10    *report to the secretary of the treasury, bearing date the fourth*  
11    *day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, shall*  
12    *be and the same are hereby confirmed.*

1     Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all the claims contain-  
 2     ed in a list transmitted to the secretary of the treasury by Mi-  
 3     chael Jones, bearing date the eighteenth day of January, one  
 4     thousand eight hundred and twelve, shall be and the same here-  
 5     by are confirmed: *Provided*, That any person who may have  
 6     received a militia right shall not receive in addition thereto more  
 7     than three hundred acres of land by virtue of this section; and  
 8     it shall be the duty of the commissioner of the general land of-  
 9     fice to enter the lot aforesaid of record in his office.

1     Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all that tract of land  
 2     included within the following boundary, viz.: beginning at the  
 3     township line nearest to and above the mouth of Big Muddy river,  
 4     on the Mississippi river; thence east to the meridian line run-  
 5     ning from the mouth of the Ohio river; thence north with the  
 6     said meridian line to the north boundary line of township  
 7     number five, north; thence west to the Mississippi river; thence  
 8     down the same to the beginning, shall be and the same hereby  
 9     is reserved and set apart to satisfy the unlocated claims of per-  
 10    sons to land within the Illinois territory confirmed to them here-  
 11    tofore or by this act.

1     Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That any person or per-  
 2     sons residing within the tract reserved by this act, and who had  
 3     actually cultivated or improved any tract of land therein before  
 4     the fifth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and  
 5     thirteen, all such persons shall be entitled to a pre-emption in

6 the purchase of any quantity of land including the improve-  
7 ment: *Provided*, That the purchaser shall not enter less than  
8 one quarter section or more than one section; and any person  
9 claiming a pre-emption in the purchase under this act, who may  
10 be the owner of any unlocated confirmed claim which may be  
11 located within the tract aforesaid, shall be and they are hereby  
12 authorised to deliver to the receiver of public money for the dis-  
13 trict within which the land lies, the evidences of his or their  
14 claim, which shall be received as payment for the quantity of  
15 land such person or persons would have been entitled to locate  
16 by virtue thereof; and in all cases where the land purchased  
17 shall not be completely paid for by the evidences of confirmed  
18 claims, the residue of the land shall be paid for in the same  
19 manner, under the same restrictions, and liable to the same  
20 forfeiture as other public lands sold at private sale.

**Sec. 5.** *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the register of the land office for the district of Kaskaskia to give notice that all persons entitled to a pre-emption in the purchase of any tract of land by virtue of this act, may make such purchase on application to him at his office on or before the day of next; and any person failing or refusing to enter with the register of the land office, the land by such person improved, on or before the day of such persons shall lose the right of pre-emption given by this act.

1      *Sec. 6. And be it further enacted,* That after the

2 day of next, it shall be lawful for any person or  
3 persons being the owner of any unlocated confirmed claim, to  
4 enter with the register of the land office for the Kaskaskia dis-  
5 trict, any quantity of land, within the reserved tract aforesaid,  
6 not exceeding one quarter section more than the quantity of  
7 acres contained in his claim or claims, and to deliver to the re-  
8 ceiver of public money, the evidence of his claim which shall  
9 be received in payment for the number of acres specified there-  
10 in, and the residue of the land thus entered which may exceed  
11 the amount of confirmed claims thus paid in shall be paid for  
12 in like manner as the other public lands of the United States  
13 sold at private sale.

1 Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That patents shall be ob-  
2 tained for lands, entered under this act in the reserved tract  
3 aforesaid, in the same manner and on the same terms as are  
4 provided by law for other public lands of the United States.